

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the present application, of which claim 1 is the sole independent claim. Claims 1-10 have been amended. Support for the amendment to claim 1 is found in the specification on page 3, lines 22-26. Claims 2-10 were amended only to maintain consistent antecedent basis.

Claims 1-8 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by, and claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) or 103(a) as anticipated by or obvious over, Kublak et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 3,597,378, hereafter "Kublak"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The present claims recite a composition comprising an iron-based powder and a wax. This composition is useful in the field of metal sintering. Kublak does not disclose a composition containing an iron-based powder. In fact, Kublak does not mention the field of metal sintering at all. Therefore, Kublak cannot disclose or suggest the limitations of the present claims.

Claims 1-10 were rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-9 of U.S. Pat. No. 7,009,030 in view of Kublak. Applicants have filed herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the rejection.

If the Examiner has any concerns regarding the application, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney by telephone to discuss the issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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